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Voluntary - Public

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India

Post: New Delhi

FSSAI Seeks Comment on Draft Regulation on GM Foods

Report Categories:

Biotechnology

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Report Highlights:

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is seeking comments from stakeholders regarding the "Draft on Operationalizing the Regulation of Genetically Modified Foods in India" by July 14, 2010. The FSSAI, through the proposed legislation, intends to meet its regulatory obligations of implementing a safety assessment and approval process for genetically modified (GM) foods.

General Information:

Introduction: On May 21, 2010, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), a statutory regulatory authority of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India (GOI), posted on its website the "Draft on Operationalizing the Regulation of Genetically Modified Foods in India" for comments by stakeholders. The final date for submission of comments is July 14, 2010, and should be addressed to:

Dr. Shaikh Nadeem Ahmed
Assistant Director, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
3rd floor, FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road
New Delhi-110002.
E-mail to snahmed@fssai.gov.in

The full text of the draft rules and regulations can be accessed in FSSAI website by typing the following link:

FSSAI GOV

Disclaimer: This summary is based on a *cursory* review of the subject announcement and therefore should not under any circumstances, be viewed as a definitive reading of the regulation in question, or of its implications for U.S. agricultural export trade interests.

Type of Regulation: Draft Food Safety

Details on the draft notification:

• Publication Date: May 21, 2010

• Date of receiving comments: July 14, 2010

• WTO Notification Date: Not notified to the WTO (as of May 24, 2010).

Products/Affected: All genetically modified food products, including processed food products, and ingredients.

Agency in Charge: Food safety and Standard Authority of India, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India (GOI)

Note:

In the proposed draft, the Food Safety and Standard Authority of India will set up an Office of Genetically Modified (GM) Foods and GM Food Safety Assessment Unit which will be supported by a scientific panel, secretariat, assessment unit and expert committee in evaluating and approving GM foods.